

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE HOUSING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ALAMEDA HELD WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008

The Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Chair Gormley presiding.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Kurrasch, Pratt, Schlueter and Chair Gormley.

Absent: Commissioner Balde and Trujillo.

New Housing Commissioner Ching-Ching Ganley was introduced.

#### 2. CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Kurrasch moved to adopt the Consent Calendar. Commissioner Schlueter seconded. Motion carried unanimously. All items accepted or adopted are indicated with an asterisk.

\*2-A. Minutes of the Housing Commission Regular Meeting held January 16, 2008. Minutes were accepted.

\*2-B. Budget Variance Report. The report was accepted.

\*2-C. Quarterly Investment Report. The Housing Commission accepted the report on the Housing Authority's investment portfolio as of December 31, 2007.

#### 3. AGENDA

3-A. Quarterly Police Report. Acting Executive Director Eileen Duffy said the number of crime reports is declining. Chair Gormley questioned page 28, if the arrow represented one narcotic report instead of an intoxication report. Ms. Duffy answered affirmative.

Commissioner Kurrasch mentioned he was happy to see the 50 times multiplier explanation on page 28 and understood how it can skew results. He was also happy to see the explanation that incidents near our complexes are reported based on the location. He was pleased for the decline in arrests.

Chair Gormley said she was sorry the police officers did not attend. She mentioned young boys climbing the fence at Independence Plaza and the gate not closing on Friday nights and weekends. Ms. Duffy noted Chair Gormley's concerns.

Commissioner Ganley asked if there are crime comparisons between Housing Authority complexes and similar cities. Commissioner Kurrasch said no and explained the Housing Authority contracts with the Alameda Police Department. He stated other housing authorities do not have this type of service. Ms. Duffy mentioned larger housing authorities have their own police force but the statistics would not be comparable to Alameda.

Chair Gormley explained that the Executive Director will provide an orientation and a tour of the Housing Authority complexes. She further explained that police officers are usually in attendance to answer questions.

This report was provided for information only.

- 3-B. Smoke Free Housing Update. Commissioner Schlueter explained the history of the decision to consider a policy for Independence Plaza becoming smoke free housing. A policy has been drafted which will be reviewed by the Housing Authority's attorney and may be finalized by the end of June.

Chair Gormley stated there will be more meetings and in the past smokers have not been forthcoming. She went on to say that the committee would like input from smokers, but they have not been successful in getting participation.

Commissioner Kurrasch said the policy may be expanded to other complexes. He also stated the Board of Commissioners may give final approval on the policy.

Commissioner Schlueter described the excellent information provided by the American Lung Association.

Chair Gormley explained other housing authorities have gone smoke free. She said over 70 percent of Independence Plaza residents want a smoke-free environment. She discussed items the committee worked on and the procedure.

Commissioner Ganley thanked Chair Gormley for the information.

This was an oral report.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Michael Torrey announced an upcoming event and talked about the NAHRO winter conference in Monterey. He discussed guidelines of being a Housing Commissioner.

5. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS.

Commissioner Kurrasch asked if there was smoke damage from the fire to Housing Authority property on Clinton Avenue. Ms. Duffy responded affirmatively that the repairs have been completed.

Chair Gormley asked Commissioner Ganley if she would like to introduce herself. Commissioner Ganley has been an Alameda resident for five years and owned a company in New Mexico. She comes from a high-tech background, has an MBA, speaks Chinese, and is retired after selling her business. Executive Director Michael Pucci invited her to join the Commission. Chair Gormley welcomed her to the Housing Commission and invited her to the next smoke-free committee meeting at Independence Plaza.

Commissioner Pratt said the Development Committee met and provided an update on Coast Guard Housing.

Ms. Duffy distributed an updated internal list of Housing Commissioners and Board of Commissioners. She said there is a separate public list which excludes personal information unless Commissioners give their approval. The Commissioners provided their individual preferences.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Chair Gormley adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

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Nancy W. Gormley, Chair

Attest:

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Michael T. Pucci  
Executive Director / Secretary